



Important Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Program News

The USDA has recently adopted new federal regulations and standards for the National CWD Program. The TAHC is currently working with interested parties to modify current TAHC regulations to be consistent with the new federal regulations and standards.

One major change that was adopted as a result of the new federal regulations is the sample collection for diagnostic testing of CWD.

Under the old regulations, owners were only required to collect and submit a sample of the obex (brainstem) to the laboratory for testing. The new federal changes require owners to collect and submit a sample of **both** the obex and retropharyngeal lymph nodes for a more complete diagnostic testing.

The TAHC has discussed these changes with the Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory (TVMDL.) Currently the TVMDL has been testing samples of the obex for a lab charge of \$40. TVMDL has modified their testing protocol to now test both the obex and retropharyngeal lymph nodes for an additional fee of only \$5 for a total lab fee of \$45. The request to test both samples must be documented on the form upfront.

If you use another laboratory for your testing it is recommended that you contact the lab to discuss specifics about the testing of both samples and lab charges.

If you have any questions regarding the CWD program please feel free to contact your Regional TAHC office.

Region 1 — Amarillo
806-354-9335

Region 2 — Hempstead
979-921-9481

Region 3 — Ft Worth
817-244-2597

Region 4 — Mt Pleasant
903-572-1966

Region 5 — Beeville
361-358-3234

Region 6 — Lampasas
512-556-6277

Region 7 — Rockdale
512-446-2507

Stay tuned for more information and details on changes.